

Message Text

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47 41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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R 111339Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2723

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 153

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NL, XF

SUBJECT: SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL FACT-FINDING MISSION TO MIDDLE
EAST

REF: VIENNA 0179

1. SUMMARY: PM AND FONMIN ARE COOL TO IDEA OF DUTCH CABINET LEVEL PARTICIPATION IN SI ME DELEGATION. LABOR PARTY'S ARDOR FOR SUCH VISIT HAS WANED SINCE IT FEARS VISIT COULD COMPLICATE GENEVA TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JAN 10 WE DISCUSSED UPCOMING SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL ME VISIT WITH ASSISTANT INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY OF DUTCH LABOR PARTY, HARRY VAN DEN BERGH, WHO WAS IN LONDON JAN 6 AND ALSO ACCOMPANIED PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL TO NOV 11 SESSION. ASKED DIRECTLY WHETHER LABOR PARTY INTENDED TO SEND CABINET LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE ON KREISKY DELEGATION, VAN DEN BERGH SAID THIS WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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STILL UP IN AIR. HE SAID FONMIN VAN DER STOEL STRONGLY OPPOSES

ANY DUTCH CABINET LEVEL PARTICIPATION, SAYING IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN CABINET MEMBER TRAVELLING IN OFFICIAL OR PRIVATE CAPACITY, ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME AND WHERE DUTCHMEN CONCERNED. PM DEN UYL IS REPORTEDLY ALSO COOL TO CABINET LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE. NEVERTHELESS, VAN DEN BERGH SAID PARTY WILL PRESS FOR CABINET LEVEL PARTICIPATION. ASKED WHAT MINISTER COULD POSSIBLY GO, VAN DEN BERGH SAID THIS WAS OPEN QUESTION. WHEN EMBOFF RULED OUT PM, FONMIN, DEFMIN, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION, VAN DEN BERGH AGREED AND SAID THERE ARE ONLY TWO CABINET LEVEL POSSIBILITIES--MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PRONK OR MINISTER OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, MRS. VORRING. EMBOFF SAID HE SAW MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH EITHER AS DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE ON SI TEAM AND VAN DEN BERGH RUEFULLY AGREED.

3. VAN DEN BERGH INDICATED DUTCH SOCIALISTS ARE NOW SOMEWHAT COOL TO FACT-FINDING MISSION, ALTHOUGH HE SAID DUTCH HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN MAKING VISIT MORE THAN "OIL VISIT" WHICH HE CON- TENDED WAS KREISKY'S MAIN PURPOSE. VAN DEN BERGH NOTED INITIATIVE FOR FACT-FINDING VISIT HAD COME IN NOVEMBER WHEN THERE STILL SEEMED NO CHANCE FOR GENEVA TALKS. HE STRESSED DUTCH SOCIALIST VIEW IS THAT SI VISIT SHOULD IN NO WAY INTERFERE WITH GENEVA TALKS. SINCE PROSPECTIVE DELEGATION MEMBERS LACK MIDDLE EAST EXPERTISE, THEY MUST AVOID COMPLETELY DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL ASPECTS OF ME PEACE SETTLEMENT AND CONCENTRATE ON LONG-TERM CONTACTS BETWEEN SI AND ME NATIONS. DUTCH ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS THAT NO RPT NO PUBLIC STATEMENT BE MADE BY ANY PRINCIPALS PARTICIPATING IN VISIT AND THAT DELEGATION REPORT ONLY TO SI (COMMENT: WITH DELEGATION OF THIS CALIBRE THIS EXPECTATION SEEMS RATHER INGENUOUS. END COMMENT).

4. EMBOFF ALSO RAISED VISIT WITH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE'S DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION (FORMER SPOKESMAN FOR DUTCH LABOR PARTY PARLIA- MENTARY GROUP) DURING LUNCHEON JAN 10. HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DOUBT ANY CABINET LEVEL DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN KREISKY DELEGATION. HE THOUGHT IT FAR MORE LIKELY THAT SOMEONE LIKE LABOR PARLIAMENTARIAN RELUS TER BEEK (INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY OF LABOR PARTY AND NOW IN US ON LEADER GRANT AND PARTICIPANT IN ABORTIVE SI FACT-FINDING MISSION TO GREECE) WOULD PARTICIPATE.

5. COMMENT: IN VIEW OPPOSITION OF BOTH PM AND FONMIN, IT SEEMS SOMEWHAT UNLIKELY ANY MEMBER OF DUTCH CABINET WILL ACTUALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTICIPATE IN KREISKY MISSION. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MINISTER PRONK WOULD BE LOGICAL CANDIDATE IF CABINET REPRESENTATIVE WERE SENT, BUT WE SERIOUSLY DOUBT FONMIN VAN DER STOEL (EVEN IF HE FAVORED PRINCIPLE OF VISIT WHICH HE DOES NOT) WOULD ACQUIESCE IN THIS KIND OF EXPOSURE FOR PRONK. WITH GENEVA TALKS ON TRACK, MOREOVER, GON WISHES AVOID ANY EXERCISE WHICH MIGHT CONCEIVABLY COMPLICATE THEM. IN SUM, DUTCH LABOR PARTY'S ARDOR FOR PARTIC- IPATION IN SI FACT-FINDING MISSION APPEARS TO HAVE COOLED CON-

SIDERABLY SINCE NOVEMBER AND IF LABOR PARTY PARTICIPATES IN SI
DELEGATION WE SUSPECT ITS REPRESENTATIVE MAY BE PARLIAMENTARIAN
OR HIGH-LEVEL PARTY FUNCTIONARY.
GOULD

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